Substandard samples of Indian-made foreign liquor

3351. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of, FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item, published in the Sunday dated the 28th January, 1995 under the heading 'Haunted by spirit';

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the period from 1st January, 1994 to 31st March, 1994, 183 samples of Indian Made 'Foreign Liquor (IMFL) out of 1589 were found to be substandard;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for doing away with the testing of IMFL which is Sold in the Capital by Government shops; and

(e) whether Government's permission was obtained by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi before doing away with the testing of IMFL and if not, what are the reasons therefor and the action Government propose to take against the Government of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY, OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir; the newspaper report has come to the notice of Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Between 1st January, 1994 and 31st March 1994, 1022 samples of Indian Made. Foreign Liquor (IMFL) were tested and 102 samples found not conforming to ISI specification. It was also, noted that under the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, as extended NCT of Delhi, and Rules framed (hereunder there was no legal sanction for compulsory testing of IMFL imported into Delhi . Further, every consignment|batch of IMFL imported into Delhi has to be accompanied by a chemical analysis report to the effect that ISI specifications are met with. It was, therefore, decided by the Government of NCT of Delhi that unless there was specific reason for not honouring these test reports, compulsory testing of each and every batch|consignment of IMFL should be done away with. However, the Excise authorities are otherwise competent to order testing of any batch|consignment of IMFL as and when doubt arises.

(e) The Government of NCT of Delhi is competent to exercise supervision and control over the transferred subjects and Excise is one of the transferred Subjects. Hence, they do not require to take approval of the Government of India.

Government's borrowing and liabilities

3352. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise an amount of Rs. 52643 crore througn borrowing and other Liabilities during the financial year 1995-96:

(b) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs. 52000 crore is proposed to be paid as interest on loan and liability: and

(c) if so. in what manner Government can claim good health of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The total borrowing reqirements of Government from all sources, i.e.. the fiscal deficit according to the Budget Estimates for 1995-96 is Rs. 57634 crores.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) Finance Minister in his Budget speech for 1995-96 has already mentioned that the economy is showing strong growth" in agricultural and industrial output, a strong revival of domestic industrial investment, a steady increase in foreign direct investment, renewed growth